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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Red Lake man indicted for assaulting a woman with a machete now charged with arson

A 47-year-old Red Lake man, who was initially charged with one count of aggravate sexual abuse and one count of assault with a dangerous weapon in relation to an April 2008 incident that ended with a 90-minute standoff with police, is now facing an additional charge of arson.

Robin Greg Kelly Sr. was charged Aug. 4 in Minneapolis via a superseding indictment alleging that Kelly willfully and maliciously set fire to and burned a residence located in the Little Rock District of the Red Lake Indian Reservation.

According to a Federal Bureau of Investigation affidavit, during the early morning of April 2, officers were called to a residence regarding an alleged assault. Kelly had allegedly kicked in a door and had proceeded to allegedly threaten three women with a machete. Following a struggle, all three women were able to escape.

Kelly, however, remained in the home, where he engaged in a standoff with authorities. Kelly allegedly set fire to the building before he surrendered.

If convicted, Kelly faces a potential maximum penalty of life in prison on the sexual abuse count, 25 years on the arson count and 10 years on the assault count. All sentences are determined by a federal district court judge.

This case is the result of an investigation by the Red Lake Police Department and the FBI, and is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Tricia A. Tingle.

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An indictment is a determination by a grand jury that there is probable cause to believe that offenses have been committed by the defendant. The defendant, of course, is presumed innocent until he or she pleads guilty or is proven guilty at trial.